

ESG & ESG-CV Office Hours



How to ask a question...

- Webinar questions:
 - Click “Q & A” chat bubble to submit a question to the team
 - Please insert your name, organization and region associated with your question, you will need to type it in the “Your Name” box
 - The team will read questions out loud at the end of the presentation and will provide answers if possible
 - All questions will be saved and recorded as part of the public record



Agenda

- ESG Updates
- ESG-CV Updates
- Equity Framing & Building
- Emergency Shelter & Services
- Resources
- Q&A

ESG Updates

- 2021 ESG NOFAs (BoS and CoC) and online applications were released on August 17th
- **All 2021 ESG applications are due by 5:00pm, October 19, 2021**
 - Applications can be submitted in both allocations on a 'rolling' basis
 - Applications must be submitted through the eCivis Grants Network System. You can access the link on the ESG Webpage.
- FAQs are posted on the ESG Webpage (Technical Assistance header)
**also posted in the eCivis Files Tab

ESG Updates

- What's New in the 2021 NOFAs:
 - Applications must be submitted through the eCivis online grants network system. (No paper/binders will be accepted this year)
 - Racial Equity Questions in the eCivis online grants network (required)
 - Resolution Template – must be used by all applicants
- The ESG team is here to assist you with your questions.
 - Please submit your questions to the ESGNOFA@hcd.ca.gov inbox.

ESG-CV Updates

- Thank you for submitting your Spending Plan for July, August, and September!
 - Your Grant Administrator will be sending you a new Spending Plan later this month to ask for spending projections in October, November, and December
- Monitoring will begin near the end of October. Grantees will receive an email prior to the monitoring date informing them of the monitoring date
 - Grantees should start gathering their policies and all back-up documentation for expenses reimbursed to date
- August Request for Funds is due September 30th- monthly submission is highly encouraged
 - Remember to black out any staff PII other than their name AND all client PII

SAVE THE DATE!

**Webinar to
Support ESG-CV
Rollout**

Who should attend?

All grantees and staff from their ESG-CV sub-recipient partners are encouraged to attend—front line staff, supervisors, program directors, finance staff

Topic:

Building Staff Capacity with ESG-CV & Creative Uses of ESG-CV Funds

Date: Monday, September 20, 2021 from 9:30 to 11:00am

Register here:

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_YkpFOhn0R8aMOCiBluzQpQ

Look for an email with this information that you can forward to subrecipients

Equity Framing

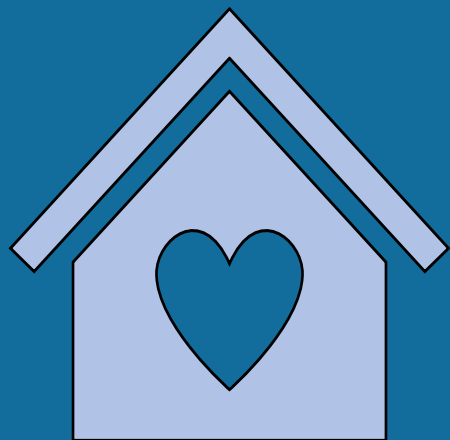
- CARES Act resources are designed to prevent the spread of COVID and to reduce the harm caused by COVID. ESG-CV funds can be used to make approaches to housing and services more equitable, sustaining and humane.
- The safest place for people to be during the epidemic is in housing. COVID-19 has amplified the historic and current racial biases and discrimination embedded in our systems, processes, and practices.
- People most harmed by COVID, housing instability, and homelessness include racial minorities, especially Black and Indigenous people, those who are elderly, and those who have health problems, especially respiratory problems.

We have an opportunity to do this differently

Urgency does not have to be in conflict with equity. If we incorporate people with lived experience and diverse partners into the planning process; engage them in execution of our vision, and honor new and different approaches, we can save lives and house people at the same time.

Building Blocks for Equity

- Expand trusted partnerships with people with lived experience, they will be critical at engaging vulnerable people and developing a more comprehensive approach to planning and program design.
- Collect quantitative data and track outcomes by demographic data to examine if there are disparities that need to be addressed. Add to this, qualitative data and experience. It's critical to have a diverse group analyzing the data including people with lived experiencing.
- Partner with community-based organizations that can provide culturally competent services and expertise to shape planning that can lead to more equitable access and outcomes.
- Across all positions, hire a diverse staff that is representative of the people being served—this includes hiring people with lived experience of homelessness. Then train and support them.
- More information and tools available at [Racial Equity](#)



Housing is the safest place during a pandemic

- Maximize the use of Rapid Rehousing
- Rapid Rehousing can serve high need households and those with zero income. If needed they can be bridged to other housing.
- Create housing focused shelter to move as many people out of congregate shelter as possible—support all staff to encourage the movement to housing including helping guests connect with family and friends for housing options.
- Train Street Outreach staff to connect unsheltered households to coordinated entry and housing options

ESG Program – FIVE CORE COMPONENTS

Components	Program Serves Those Who Are:
1. Street Outreach	Homeless
2. Emergency Shelter	
3. Rapid Re-Housing	
4. Homeless Prevention	At Risk of Homelessness
	Collect & Maintain Data On:
5. Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)	Homeless and At Risk of Homelessness

Emergency Shelter

Participants

ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANTS

Assistance provided must **serve individuals and families who are homeless** (Categories 1-4 of the Homeless definition).

Four (4) categories of the Homeless definition:

- **Category 1:** Literally homeless individuals/families
- **Category 2:** Individuals/families who will imminently lose their primary nighttime residence with no subsequent residence, resources or support networks
- **Category 3:** Unaccompanied youth or families with children/youth who meet the homeless definition under other federal statutes
- **Category 4:** Individuals/families fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence

Essential Services for individuals and families in emergency shelter (ES).

Shelter Operations

Renovation

Relocation Assistance for persons displaced by a project assisted with ESG funds.

Component services:

Case Management

Child care

Education Services

Employment Assistance

Outpatient Health Services

Mental Health Services

Legal Services

Substance Abuse Treatment Services

Life Skills Training

Transportation

Emergency Shelter

Services

24 CFR 576.102

Essential Services

Services provided to individuals and families who are in an emergency shelter may include:

- Case Management
- Life Skills
- Child Care
- Mental Health Services
- Education Services
- Transportation
- Outpatient Health Services
- Substance Abuse Treatment Services
- Employment Assistance and Job Training
- Services for Special Populations
- Legal Services

NEW ESG-CV Notice Flexibilities

- **Time limit on shelter** – The 1/31/2022 deadline for spending ESG-CV on emergency shelter or temporary emergency shelter is lifted. ESG-CV funds may be used to pay for emergency shelter and temporary emergency shelter costs as needed through 9/30/2022.
- **Converting TES to ES** – Allows conversion of Temporary Emergency Shelter acquired or improved with ESG-CV funds into Emergency Shelter without triggering disposition requirements.

NEW ESG-CV Notice Flexibilities

2021 ESG-CV Notice

- Vaccine Incentives
 - Ability to provide \$50 per dose vaccine incentive to people experiencing homelessness for receiving the COVID-19 vaccine.
- Cell Phones
 - Cost of cell phone and wireless plan loaned to participants

2020 ESG-CV Notice (still eligible)

- PPE
 - Costs to purchase personal protective equipment (PPE) for program participants within essential services
 - Examples: masks, disposable gloves, hand sanitizer, etc.
- Hazard Pay for staff and Volunteer Incentives
- Training on infectious disease prevention and mitigation (including vaccines)

Building Equity: Emergency Shelter

Hire diverse shelter staff that is representative of the people being served—this includes hiring people with lived experience of homelessness. Then train and support them.

- **TIP:** Hire people with lived experience of homelessness to be Vaccine Ambassadors

Design shelter to be welcoming

- **TIP:** Maximize supportive services staff that can connect guests to housing and other services and minimize law enforcement presence.
- **TIP:** Create policies and procedures that ensure those least likely to access services are assisted.

Seek out community organizations that have trusted relationships with underserved groups and can provide expertise on reaching and engaging them, including broadening your partnerships to contract with them for essential services.

As a part of your exit process, provide anonymous ways for people to give feedback on racial and cultural treatment while engaging with your program.

Review data on who was banned or terminated from shelter to check for disparities in who is asked to leave, how long, or who has unknown exits.

Program Design Priorities: Shelter (including NCS)

- Coordinate with CoC to ensure shelter management protocols are updated to align with CDC guidance (social distancing, symptom screening, testing, isolation, hygiene/sanitation protocols)
- Maintain and increase Non-congregate Shelter (NCS) beds
- Assess staffing and resource needs, including personal protective equipment (PPE)
- Ensure shelter services and staffing capacity support the ability to prevent and mitigate the spread of infection, and increase the likelihood of stable housing exits with shortened stays such as:
 - Expansion of essential services for housing navigation to decrease length of stay in shelter
 - Housing-focused services, including adopting housing problem-solving strategies
- Continued coordination with public health to offer vaccination events onsite or provide transportation to vaccination efforts in the community.

Emergency Shelter Essential Services

Essential Services –

Case Management

Housing-focused case management activities assess, arrange, coordinate, and monitor individualized services developed for program participants to end their homelessness.

- Assessing, arranging, coordinating, monitoring individualized services.
- Using the centralized or coordinated assessment system
- Initial evaluation including verifying and documenting eligibility
- Counseling
- Developing, securing and coordinating services including Federal, state, and local benefits
- Monitoring and evaluating program participant progress
- Providing information and referrals to other providers
- Providing ongoing risk assessment and safety planning with victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking
- **Developing an individualized housing and service plan**

Essential Services –

Child Care

Licensed childcare for program participants with children under the age of 13, or disabled children under the age of 18.

- Childcare costs
- Meals and snacks
- Comprehensive and coordinated sets of appropriate developmental activities

Essential Services -

Education Services

Instruction or training to enhance participants' ability to obtain and maintain housing: literacy, English literacy, GED, consumer education, health education, and substance abuse prevention.

- Educational services / skill-building
- Screening assessment and testing Screening, assessment and testing
- Individual or group instruction
- Tutoring
- Provision of books, supplies and instructional material
- Counseling
- Referral to community resources

Essential Services –

Employment Assistance and Job Training

Services assisting participants secure employment and job training programs.

- Classroom, online and/or computer instruction
- On the-job instruction
- Job finding, skill-building
- Reasonable stipends in employment assistance and job training programs
- Books and instructional material
- Employment screening, assessment, or testing
- Structured job-seeking support
- Special training and tutoring, including literacy training and pre-vocational training
- Counseling or job coaching
- Referral to community resources

Essential Services –

Outpatient Health Services

Direct outpatient treatment of medical conditions provided by licensed medical professionals.

- Assessing health problems and developing a treatment plan
- Assisting program participants to understand their health needs
- Providing or helping participants obtain appropriate medical treatment, preventive medical care, and health maintenance services, including emergency medical services
- Providing medication and follow-up services
- Providing preventive and non-cosmetic dental care

Essential Services –

Legal Services

Necessary legal services regarding matters that interfere with the program participant's ability to obtain and retain housing

- Hourly fees for legal advice and representation by licensed attorneys and certain other fees-for-service
- Client intake, preparation of cases for trial, provision of legal advice, representation at hearings, and counseling
- Filing fees and other necessary court costs

Essential Services –

Legal Services

Legal representation and advice to resolve legal problems that prevent participants from obtaining or retaining permanent housing:

- Child support
- Guardianship
- Paternity
- Emancipation
- Resolution of outstanding criminal warrants
- Legal separation
- Appeal of veterans and public benefit claim denials
- Orders of protection and other civil remedies for victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking

Essential Services –

Life Skills Training

An opportunity to support your participants in strengthening the critical life skills they've identified as helpful for them to live independently in the community.

- Budgeting resources
- Managing money
- Managing a household
- Resolving conflict
- Shopping for food and needed items
- Improving nutrition
- Using public transportation
- Parenting

Essential Services –

Mental Health Services

Direct outpatient treatment of mental health conditions by licensed professionals

- Crisis interventions
- Individual family or group therapy sessions
- Prescription of psychotropic medications or explanations about the use and management of medications
- Combinations of therapeutic approaches to address multiple problems.

Essential Services – Substance Abuse Treatment Services

Substance use treatment services provided by licensed or certified professionals, designed to prevent, reduce, eliminate or deter relapse of substance use or behaviors.

- Client intake and assessment
- Outpatient treatment for up to thirty days
- Group and individual counseling
- Drug testing

Essential Services –

Transportation

Costs of travel by program participants to and from medical care, employment, childcare, or other facilities that provide eligible essential services; and cost of staff travel to support provision of essential services

- Cost of a program participant's travel on public transportation
- Mileage allowance for service workers to visit participants
- Purchasing or leasing a vehicle used for transport of participants and/or staff serving participants, including the cost of gas insurance taxes and maintenance for the vehicle of gas, insurance, taxes and maintenance for the vehicle
- Travel costs of staff to accompany or assist program participants to use public transportation

Essential Services –

Services for Special Populations

Otherwise eligible essential services tailored to address the special needs of homeless youth, victims of domestic violence and related crimes/threats and people living with and related crimes/threats, and people living with HIV/AIDS HIV/AIDS in emergency shelters.

- Case Management
- Legal Services
- Child Care
- Life Skills Training
- Education Services
- Mental Health Services
- Employment Assistance & Job Training
- Substance Abuse Treatment Services
- Outpatient Health Services
- Transportation

Operations

Shelter Operations

Costs to operate and maintain emergency shelters and also provide other emergency lodging when appropriate

- Maintenance (including minor or routine repairs)
- Rent
- Equipment
- Fuel
- Insurance
- Utilities
- Food
- Furnishings
- Security
- Supplies necessary for the operation of the emergency shelter
- Hotel or motel voucher for family or individual

Other Eligible Activities

- Assistance required under “URA”
- Rehabilitation and Renovation

For assistance with these activities, please talk with the HCD team or your Grant Administrator.

ESG Resource Links

[ESG Regulations](#) - (update published April 2017)

[ESG-CV Notice](#)

General ESG Information

- [HUD ESG Landing Page](#)
- [ESG Program Overview](#)
- [ESG Program HMIS Manual](#)
- [ESG Minimum Habitability Standards ES and Permanent Housing](#)

TA Resources:

- [Disease Risks and Homelessness](#) - landing page for resources on a wide range of topics
- [ESG-CV Notice Summary](#)
- [Flexibilities/Waivers Granted by the CARES Act + Mega Waiver and Guidance](#) - applicable Waivers on pages 11-14
- [Strategies to Design and Implement a Successful ESG-CV Program](#)
- [IDIS Fact Sheet for ESG and ESG-CV Funds Setup](#)
- [ESG-CV Quarterly Reporting Calendar](#)

COVID Response Resources

Standing Up Infection Control Measures:

- [Alternative Approaches to Sheltering](#)
- [Shelter Management During an Infectious Disease](#)
- [Winter Sheltering Resources](#)
- [Shelter Preparedness Checklist](#)
- [Creative Staffing Solutions \(See Appendix 1\)](#)
- [COVID Informational Flyers](#)
- [Vaccine Messaging Toolkit](#)
- [Eligible ESG Program Costs for Infectious Disease Preparedness](#)

CDC and NHCHC Guidance:

- [Strategies for Proactive Universal Testing](#)
- [Guidance for Service Providers to Respond to COVID](#)



Questions?

Contact Us...

- If you have any further questions, please contact us:
 - Annual ESG – Please reach out to your ESG Representative or ESG@hcd.ca.gov
 - ESG-CV – Please reach out to your Grant Administrator